

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 310

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Edward Faucett  
(Eddie) Jones of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Edward Faucett (Eddie) Jones; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, instrumental in the development and growth of Nashville into the vibrant metropolitan city it is today, Edward Faucett Jones was a distinguished civic leader, esteemed journalist, and visionary businessman; and

WHEREAS, born in rural Lawrence County on March 10, 1924, and moving to Nashville as a child, Eddie Jones was a 1942 graduate of East Nashville High School and attended Washington and Lee University; and

WHEREAS, enrolling in the aviation cadet program of the Army Air Corps while at Washington and Lee, Mr. Jones was commissioned a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and awarded his pilot's wings in 1944; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Nation's greatest generation, Mr. Jones proudly served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II as a fighter pilot with the 57<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group in Italy, flying seventy-six missions by the end of the war; and

WHEREAS, returning to the United States in 1945, Eddie Jones served three years as an Air Force officer, primarily as the public information officer for Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas; and

WHEREAS, completing his military service in 1949, Eddie Jones returned to Nashville where he embarked on his distinguished career in journalism, joining the *Nashville Banner* as a reporter and later becoming a featured columnist; and

WHEREAS, an exceptional reporter and newspaperman, Eddie Jones easily earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues as he covered every story and issue of the day with keen insight, comprehensive detail, and a remarkable ability to relate to his readers; and

WHEREAS, entering civil service with the State of Tennessee, Mr. Jones was named the information officer for the Tennessee Department of Safety in 1956, which later led to service in Washington, D.C., as the staff director of a Congressional Traffic Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, returning to Nashville and state government service in 1959, Eddie Jones accepted the position of press secretary to Governor Frank G. Clement and wed his beloved bride, Wanda Smith, in 1960; and

WHEREAS, the right man at the right time, in 1967, Eddie Jones was named Executive Vice President of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and would spend the next twenty years working tirelessly to promote the city, enhance the quality of life for its citizens, and recruit new businesses and financial investment while inspiring continued economic development by local business leaders; and

WHEREAS, confident in his vision of a bright, shining future for Nashville, Mr. Jones led the campaigns to legalize the sale of mixed drinks in Nashville, to establish the Metro Airport Authority, and to form a convention and visitors bureau division in the Chamber; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated civic leader, Eddie Jones played an instrumental role in the formation of the Leadership Nashville program, Project Pencil, and the World War II Fighter Pilot's Association; and

WHEREAS, after twenty years with the Chamber, Eddie Jones returned to the *Nashville Banner* in 1987, when he was named editor and would serve in that capacity until the paper ceased publication in 1998; and

WHEREAS, considered an old-fashioned news hound, Mr. Jones reportedly delighted in beating his competition on a story and guided many a young reporter, sharing his vast knowledge and experience, winning their deep admiration and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones then joined the prestigious Dye, Van Mol and Lawrence publications agency as a senior consultant, where he was still employed at the time of his death, going to the office every day, often typing letters on his trusty Royal manual typewriter to local reporters with news tips and story ideas; and

WHEREAS, a former President of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce Executive's Association, Mr. Jones served as a board member of the Tennessee Press Association, President of the Nashville City Club, and President of the local chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists; and

WHEREAS, active in the Episcopal Church, Eddie Jones was a member of St. George's Episcopal Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a member of the building committee and in numerous other capacities; and

WHEREAS, preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. Gordon Jones, Eddie Jones is survived by his beloved wife, Wanda Smith Jones, and a son, David Benson Jones; and

WHEREAS, a kind, generous, and gracious gentleman, who possessed a hearty laugh and the gift of humor, Mr. Jones leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this truly exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Edward Faucett (Eddie) Jones, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his extraordinary contributions to the people of Nashville, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Edward Faucett Jones.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.